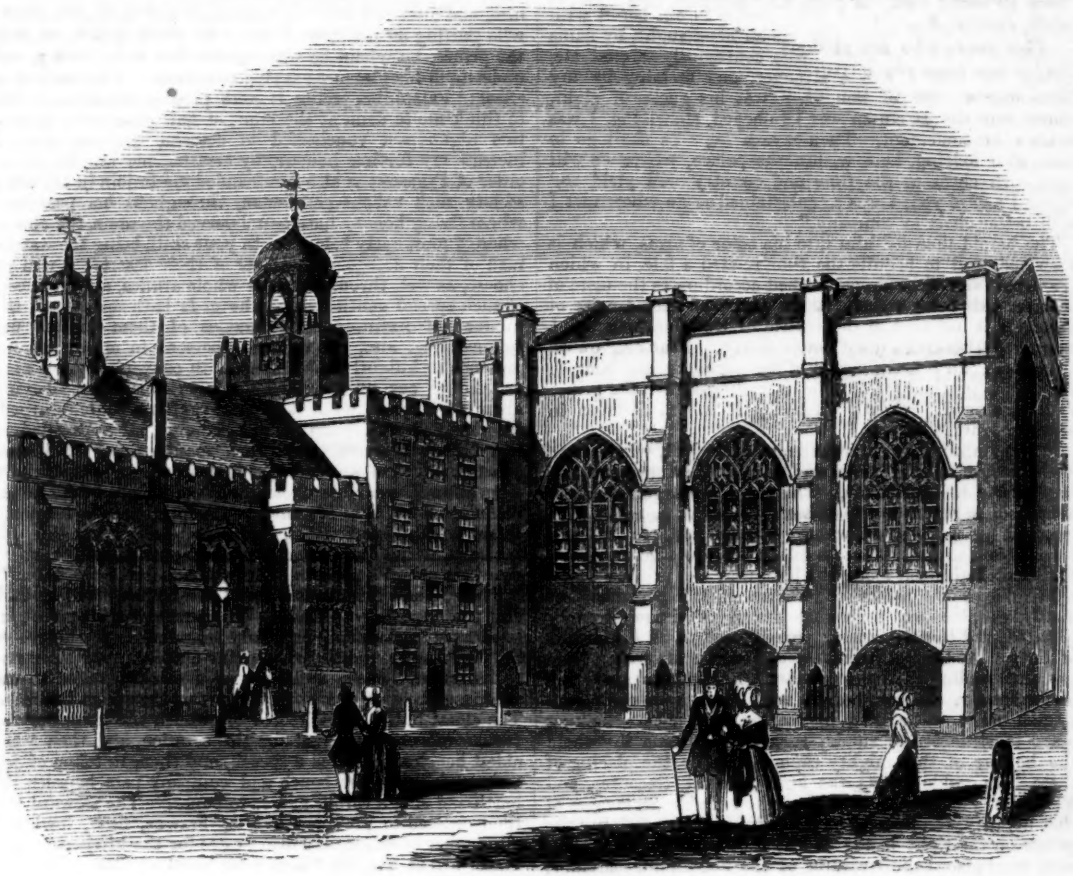
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SOME ACCOUNT OF THE

ORIGIN, HISTORY, AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE INNS OF COURT.



LINCOLN'S INN HALL AND CHAPEL.

II.

Section 4. Ancient Festivities.

The Inns of Court were celebrated in former times as much for their shows, and masques, and revels, as for their good cheer. The principal holidays and festivals were kept with great splendour; their entertainments being frequently honoured with the presence of the nobility, and sometimes with that of royalty. The following notice of these festivities relates to the Temple, and may serve to illustrate similar proceedings in the other inns of court, which were enacted, probably, on a somewhat smaller scale.

One of these Christmas festivals is minutely and quaintly detailed by Gerard Leigh, in his *Accidence of Armory*, which, with some slight abridgments, we extract. The hero on this occasion was Dudley, earl of Leicester, who with the romance of his mistress, Queen Elizabeth, styled himself Palaphilos, prince of Sophie. He was entertained by a person representing a sovereign prince, and had for his officers the lords chancellor, privy-seal, treasurer; several of the judges and other dignitaries of the law, and upwards of fourscore of the guard. Our author begins:—"After I had travelled through the east parts of the unknown world to understand of deedes of arms, and so arriving in the fair river of Thames, I landed within half a league from the fair city of London, which was, as I conjecture, in December last; and drawing neer the city, suddainly heard the shot of double canons, in so great a number, and so terrible, that it darkened the whole ayr; wherewith, although I was in my native country, yet stood I amazed, not knowing what it meant. Thus, as I abode in despair, either to return or continue my former purpose, I chanced to see coming toward me an honest citizen, clothed in a long garment, keping the highway, seeming to walk for his recreation, which prognosticated rather peace than peril; of whom I demanded the cause of this great shot, who friendly answered, 'It is (quoth he,) a warning shot to the Constable Marshal of the Inner Temple to prepare to dinner.' 'Why (said I,) what, is he of that estate, that seeketh no other means to warn his officers than with so terrible shot in so peaceable a country?' 'Marry (saith he,) he uttereth himself the better to be that officer whose name he beareth.'

"I then demanded what province did he govern, that needeth such an officer. He answered me, 'The province was not great in quantity, but ancient in true nobility. A place (said he) privileged by the most excellent princess, the high governor of the whole island, wherein are store of gentlemen of the whole realm, that repair thither to learn to rule and obey by law, to yield their fleece to their prince and common-weal, as also to use all other exercises of body

and mind whereunto nature most aptly serveth to adorn, by speaking, countenance, gesture, and use of apparel, the person of a gentleman. And after he had told me thus much of honour of the place, I commended in mine own conceit the policy of the governor; for that the best of their people, from tender years trained up in precepts of justice, it could not choose but yield forth a profitable people to a wise commonweal.

"The next day I thought for my pastime, to walk to this Temple, and entering in at the gates, I found the building nothing costly, but many comely gentlemen of face and person and thereto very courteous, saw I pass to and fro, so as it seemed a prince's post to be at hand; and, passing forward, entered into a church of ancient building, wherein were many monuments of noble personages, armed in knightlie habit, with their coats depainted in ancient shields, whereat I took pleasure to behold. Thus gazing as one bereft with the rare sight, there came unto me an herehaught, by name Palaphilos, a king of armes, who courteously saluted me, saying, for that I was a stranger, and seeming by my demeanour a lover of honour, I was his guest of right, whose courtesy (as reason was,) I obeyed, answering, I was at his commandement. Then sayeth he, 'Ye shall go to mine own lodging, here within the palace, where we will have such cheer as the time and country will yield us,' where I assure you, I was so entertained as no where met I with better cheer or company."

The herald then led him into his office of arms, which is described, and to beguile the time related a tale, in which the virtues and vices are personified according to the taste of the age: this being ended, "there happened such a noise of shot as if it had been at the battrie of Bulloine, whereat I marvelled, thinking myself not in safety. 'Fear not,' quoth Palaphilos, 'for it is the master of the ordinance that scoureth his shot, to try their level, to be in readiness when the prince shall command.' 'Well,' quoth I, 'it is well foreseen in peace to provide for war.'

"Thus talking we entered the prince's hall, where anon we heard the noise of drum and fife. 'What meaneth this drum?' said I. Quoth he, 'This is to warn gentlemen of household to repair to the dresser, wherefore come on with me, and ye shall stand where ye may best see the hall served;' and so from thence brought me into a long gallery, that stretcheth itself along the hall, near the prince's table, where I saw the prince sit, a man of tall personage, of manly countenance, somewhat brown of visage, strongly featured, and thereto comely proportioned in all lineaments of body. At the nether end of the same table were placed the ambassadors of divers princes. Before him stood the carver, sewer, and cup-bearer, with great number of gentlemen waiters attending his person, the ushers making place to strangers of sundry regions that came to behold the honour of this mighty captain. After the placing of these honourable guests, the lords steward, treasurer, and keeper of Pallas seal, with divers honourable personages of that nobility, were placed at a side-table, near adjoining the prince on the right hand; and at another table, on the left side, were placed the treasurer of the household, secretary, the prince's serjeant of law, the four masters of the revells, the king of arms, the dean of the chapel, and divers gentlemen-pensioners to furnish the same. At another table, on the other side, were set the master of the game and his chief ranger, masters of household, clerks of the green cloth and check, with divers other strangers to furnish the same. On the other side against them began the table, the lieutenant of the Tower, accompanied with divers captains of foot-bands and shot. At the nether end of the hall began the table, the high butler and panter, clerks of the kitchen, master-cook of the privy kitchen, furnished throughout with the soldiers and guard of the prince; all with number of inferior officers placed and served in the hall, besides the great resort of strangers I spare to write.

"The prince was so served with tender meats, sweet fruits, and dainty delicacies, confectioned with curious cookery, that it seemed to wonder the world to observe the provision; and at every course the trumpets sounded the courageous blast of deadly war, with noise of drum and fife, with the sweet harmony of violins, sackbuts, recorders, and cornets, with other instruments of music, as it seemed Apollo's harp had tuned their stroke.

"Thus the hall was served after the most ancient order of the island; in commendation whereof, I say I have also seen the service of great princes in solemn seasons and times of triumph, yet the order hereof was not inferior to any. But to proceed.

"This herehaught, Palaphilos, even before the second course came in, standing at the high table, said in this manner,—'The mighty Palaphilos, prince of Sophie, high constable, marshal of the Knights Templars, patron of the honourable order of Pegasus,' and therewith crieth a largess. The prince praising the herald, bountifully rewarded him with a chain to the value of an hundred talents.

"I assure you I languish for want of cunning ripely to utter that I saw so orderly handled, appertaining to service; wherefore I cease and return to my purpose.

"The supper ended, and tables taken up, the high-constable rose, and awhile stood under the place of honour, where his atchievement was beautifully embroidered, and devised of sundry matters with the embassadors of foreign nations as he thought good, till Palaphilos, king of armes, came in, his herehaught, marshall, and pursuivant before him, and after followed his messenger and caligate knight; who putting off his coronal, made his humble obeysance to the prince, by whom he was commanded to draw near, and understand his pleasure; saying to him in few words to this effect: 'Palaphilos, seeing it hath pleased the high Pallas to think me to demerit the office of this place, and thereto this night past vouchsafed to descend from heavens to increase my further honour, by creating me knight of her order of Pegasus; as also commanded me to join in the same society such valiant gentlemen, throughout her province, whose living honour hath best deserved the same, the choice whereof most aptly belongeth to your skill, being the watchman of their doings and register of their deserts; I will ye choose, as well throughout our whole armies, as elsewhere, of such special gentlemen, as the gods hath appointed, the number of xxiiii, and the names of them present us; commanding, also, those chosen persons to appear in our presence in knightly habit, that, with conveniency, we may proceed in our purpose.' This done, Palaphilos, obeying his prince's commandment, departed; after a while returned, accompanied with xxiiii valient knights, all apparelled in long white vestures, with each man a scarf of Pallas' colours, and then presented with their names to the prince, who allowed well his choice, and commended him to do his office, who, after his duty to the prince, bowed toward these worthy personages, standing every man in his ancienty, as he had borne arms in the field, and began to show his prince's pleasure, with the honour of the order."

These grand Christmases lasted several days, and on each day the ceremony differed. The proceedings were regulated by a parliament, expressly summoned, on the eve of St. Thomas the Apostle, who having entered into "solempne consultation," their decisions were communicated to the other members of the house by one of the senior benchers. The eldest butler was directed to publish the names of the various officers appointed for the occasion, and then "the oldest bencher delivered a speech, and then, in token of joy and good-liking, the bench and company pass beneath the harth and sing a caroll, and so to boyer." The steward was then ordered to provide "five fat brawns, flesh, fowl, and all manner of spices, and other cates for the kitchen." The butler was to prepare "a rich cupboard of plate, silver and parcel gilt, seven dozen of silver and gilt spoons, twelve pair of salt-sellers, likewise silver and gilt; twenty candlesticks of the like; twelve fine large table-cloths, of damask and diaper; twenty dozen of napkins, suitable at the least; three dozen of fair large towels, which the gentlemen sewers and butlers of the house were to have every of them, one at meal-times during their attendance." He was likewise to provide carving-knives; twenty dozen of white cups and *green* pots; a carving-table; torches, bread, beer, and ale. The chief butler was to give attendance at the highest table in the hall, with wine, ale, and beer, and the other butlers to attend at the other tables.

The constable-marshal was to provide himself with "a fair gilt compleat harneys, (suit of armour,) with a nest of feathers in the helm; a fair pole-axe to bear in his hand, in order to be chevalrously ordered on Christmass day and the other different days."

There was a grand dinner on Christmas eve, for which the tables were arranged with much ceremony by the marshal, and the company placed according to their several degrees. The first course was brought in preceded by the minstrels sounding their instruments. The steward and marshal followed, and after them the gentleman sewer; and then came the meat. These three officers were to make all together three "solempne curtesies," at three several times, between the screen and the upper table, the first at the end of the benchers' table, the second about the midst, and the

third at the other end, and then withdrawing on one side, the sewer performed his office.

When dinner was over, the musicians sang a song at the highest table, and then the officers were to address themselves, every one in his office, "to avoid the tables in fair and decent manner, beginning at the clerk's table," and thence proceeding to the next, and thence to all the others, "till the highest table be solempnly avoided." All this time the musicians were to stand "right above the hearth side with the noise of their music, their faces direct towards the highest table; and that done to return into the buttery with their music sounding." The second course was similarly served.

Dinner concluded with revels, during which, and also at dinner, the porters were to view all persons going in and out; and for this service they were allowed "a cast of bread and a candle nightly after supper." The revels and dancing were continued during the twelve days of Christmas; and every day after dinner and supper, the senior master of the revels sang a "caroli or song: and commanded other gentlemen then there present to sing with him and the company," which was "very decently performed."

On Christmas day, after hearing divine service at the Temple church, the gentlemen breakfasted in the hall "with brawn, mustard, and malmsey." At dinner on this day, the first course was "a fair and large bore's-head upon a silver platter, with minstrelsye." At supper two gentlemen in gowns attended, bearing two fair torches of wax next before the musicians and trumpeters, and stood above the fire with the music till the whole first course was served in, which being done, they returned with the music into the buttery; and this same order was observed during the whole Christmas festival.

But the grandest ceremony was on St. Stephen's day, which is thus described by Dugdale.

"This day the sewer, carver, and cup-bearer are to serve as afore. After the first course served in, the constable-marshall cometh into the hall, arrayed with a fair, rich, compleat harneys, white and bright, and gilt, with a nest of fethers of all colours upon his crest or helm, and a gilt pole-axe in his hand; to whom is associate the lieutenant of the Tower, armed with a fair white armour, a nest of fethers in his helm, and a like pole-axe in his hand, and with them sixteen trumpetters; four drums and fifes going in rank before them, and with them attendeth four men in white harneys, from the middle upwards, and halberds in their hands, bearing on their shoulders the Tower; which persons, with the drums, trumpets, and music, go three times about the fire. Then the constable-marshall, after two or three curtesies made, kneeleth down before the lord chancellor; behind him the lieutenant, and they kneeling, the constable-marshall pronounceth an oration of a quarter of an hour's length, thereby declaring the purpose of his coming, and that his purpose is to be admitted into his lordship's service.

"The lord chancellor saith he will take further advice therein.

"Then the constable-marshall, standing up in submissive manner, delivereth his naked sword to the steward, who giveth it to the lord chancellour; and thereupon the lord chancellor willeth the marshall to place the constable-marshall in his seat; and so he doth, with the lieutenant also in his seat or place. During this ceremony the Tower is placed beneath the fire.

"Then cometh in the master of the game, apparelled in green velvet; and the ranger of the forest, also in a green suit of satten, bearing in his hand a green bow and divers arrows, with either of them a hunting-horn about their necks: blowing together three blasts of venery, they pace round about the fire three times. Then the master of the game maketh three curtesies as aforesaid, and kneeleth down before the lord chancellour, declaring the cause of his coming, and desireth to be admitted into his service, &c. All this time the ranger of the forest standeth directly behind him; then the master of the game standeth up.

"This ceremony also performed, a huntsman cometh into the hall with a fox and a purse-net, with a cat, both bound at the end of a staff, and with them nine or ten couple of hounds, with the blowing of hunting-hornes, and the fox and cat are by the hounds set upon and killed beneath the fire. This sport finished, the marshall placeth them in their several appointed places.

"Then proceedeth the second course; which done, and served out, the common serjeant delivereth a plausible speech to the lord chancellour and his company at the highest table, how necessary a thing it is to have officers at this present, the constable-marshall and master of the game, for the better honour and reputation of the commonwealth, and wisheth them to be received, &c.

"Then the king's serjeant-at-law declareth and inferreth the necessity; which heard, the lord chancellor desireth respite of further advice. Then the antientest of the masters of the revels singeth a song, with assistance of others there present.

"At supper the hall is to be served in all solempnity as upon Christmas day, both the first and second course to the highest table. Supper ended the constable-marshall presenteth himself, with drums afore him, mounted upon a scaffold, born by four men; and goeth three times round about the harthe, crying out aloud *a lord! a lord!* &c.; then he descendeth, and goeth to dance, &c., and after he calleth his court, every one by name, one by one in this manner.

"Sir Francis Flatterer, of Fowleshurst, in the county of Buckingham.—Sir Randle Rackabite, of Rascall Hall, in the county of Rakehell.—Sir Morgan Mumchance, of Much Monkery, in the county of Mad Mopery.—Sir Bartholomew Baldbreech, of Buttocksbury, in the county of Brekeneck.

"This done the Lord of Misrule addresseth himself to the banquet, which ended with some minstrelsye, mirth and dancing, every man departeth to rest.

"At every mess is a pot of wine allowed. Every repast is 6*d*."

On St. John's day, the lord of misrule was again abroad, and "if he lack any officer or attendant, he repaireth to their chambers, and compelleth them to attend in person upon him, after service in the church, to breakfast with brawn, mustard, and malmsey. After breakfast ended, his lordship's power is in suspense, until his personal presence at night, and then his power is most potent."

During these events defaulters were to be committed to the custody of the lieutenant; but, if they could make their escape to the buttery, and bring into the hall "a manchet upon the point of knife," they were free; "for the buttery in that case is a sanctuary." On the "grand banquetting night," the inns of chancery were invited to see a play and masque. The hall was furnished "with scaffolds to sit on, for ladies to behold the sports," which being ended, the ladies partook of a sumptuous banquet in the library.

Section 5.

Armorial Bearings of the two Temples.

Towards the close of the last century the two Temples became involved in a dispute about precedence, founded on their respective armorial bearings; in consequence whereof the Hon. Daines Barrington instituted an inquiry into the origin of such bearings, and in 1788 communicated the result to the Society of Antiquaries, who published his paper in their *Archæologia*, from which we select the following particulars.

The Templars originally styled themselves "Pauperes commilitones Christi et Templi Salomonis," and consisted at first of only nine; the two principal of which were so poor that they were obliged to ride both on one horse, which was, moreover, fixed upon as a proper device for their seal. But when they increased in number and riches, they abandoned their original device in favour of another, which they probably deemed more honourable.

In the fifth year of Elizabeth the Inner Temple assumed arms and a seal, by the suggestion of Master Gerard Leigh, who was a member of this inn of court. The device was "a Pegasus, Luna, on a field argent." And, considering that the societies of the law had been so long and so honourably established, the herald emblasoned their device by precious stones and planets, as being "truly honourable societies according to their present style."

The object of Leigh in proposing these singular arms, was to imply that the knowledge acquired at this learned seminary would raise the professors of the law to the greatest honours; hence he added the motto *Volat ad æthera virtus*. "Nor did he decline alluding to their progress in what are generally esteemed more liberal sciences, and therefore thought that Pegasus forming the fountain of Hippocrene by striking his hoof against a rock, was a proper emblem of the lawyers even becoming poets.

"Here it may not be improper to observe that the two fathers of English poets, Chaucer and Gower, were both of the Inner Temple. Nor should it be forgot that this inn of court employed Sir James Thornhill (in Queen Anne's time) to decorate the east end of their hall with Pegasus

forming the fountain of Hippocrene, while the Muses attend, and Mercury shews Pegasus the way to Heaven, in allusion to the before-mentioned *Volat ad æthera virtus.*"

Garth, indeed, seems to think that the lawyers assumed too much by this connection with the Muses, when he says,—

"Sooner shall glow-worms vie with Titan's beams,
Or Hare-Court pump with Aganippe's streams."

To explain which last line, it is necessary to observe that Hare Court is in the Inner Temple, and the pump there not failing in summer, as most of the others do, it is chiefly resorted to by the inhabitants for water.

It appears that the Middle Temple had neither arms nor seal until more than fifty years after the Inner Temple had adopted the Pegasus, when in 1615 Sir George Buc proposed two devices; one was "two armed knights riding upon one horse," and the other "a field argent charged with a cross gules, and upon the nombril thereof a Holy Lamb."

Now these are the identical devices of the Knights Templars, the first pertaining to their poverty, and the second to their state of affluence. The latter was adopted by the Middle Temple, which circumstance in after-times caused this society to claim precedence over the other on the ground of superior antiquity. Hence arose warm disputes with regard to precedence, "which in the seventeenth century were carried so far as to the priority of receiving the sacrament from the Master of the Temple; and even so late as in 1736, both inns of court, upon a general call of serjeants, claimed the honour of walking *last* in the procession, which, being referred to the Lord Chancellor and two Chief Justices, was determined in favour of the Inner Temple."

The following epigrams refer to the cognizances of these societies. The author of the amusing volumes on *Law and Lawyers* says, "they are certainly more laudable for wit than for good taste:"—

As by the Templars' haunts you go
The *horse* and *lamb* display'd,
In emblematic figures shew,
The merits of their trade;

That clients may infer from thence
How just is their profession,
The *lamb* sets forth their innocence—
The *horse* their expedition.

Oh! happy Britons! happy isle,
Let foreign nations say,
Where you get justice without guile,
And law without delay.

In the volume just noticed it is very properly remarked that "to charge 'the law's delay' upon the lawyers, is about as just as it would be to ascribe the rapidity with which some medicines effect a cure to the wisdom and honesty of the physicians." The above epigram has elicited the following reply:—

Deluded men! their holds forego,
Nor trust such cunning elves;
These artful emblems tend to shew
Their clients, not themselves.

'Tis all a trick, these all are shams
By which they mean to cheat you,
But have a care!—for you're the lambs;
And they the wolves that eat you.

Nor let the thought of no delay
To these their courts misguide you;
'Tis you're the showy-horse, and they
The jockeys that will ride you.

Section 6.

Inns of Chancery attached to the Temple.

Five Inns of Chancery were formerly attached to the two Temples,—namely, 1. The Strand Inn; 2. Clifford's Inn; 3. Lyon's Inn; 4. Clement's Inn; and 5. New Inn. The history of these dependent inns is not very precise, no records existing to decide the date of their foundation. Their learned exercises were regulated by their own local constitutions; but in other respects their proceedings resembled those of the other inns.

1. *The Strand Inn*, also called Chester, or Chester's Inn. This was a house of chancery belonging to the Middle Temple, and was situate near the church of St. Mary le Strand. It was destroyed, together with several other buildings, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, to make room for Somerset House, the students having been previously removed to New Inn.

2. *Clifford's Inn* adjoins St. Dunstan's church in Fleet Street. Its name is derived from the Barons Clifford, ancestors of the Earls of Cumberland, whose hostel or inn occupied this place. It was originally granted by Edward the Second to Robert de Clifford, to hold by the service of one penny to be paid into the king's exchequer at Michaelmas. After his death, Isabel, his widow, let the same messuage to certain law students, or apprenticiis de banco. Some time after this Clifford's Inn again became royal property, and was again granted to the Cliffords. Since that time, first by lease, and afterwards in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by a grant in fee-farm, to Nicholas Sulyard, Esq., principal of this house, and others, and in consideration of 60*l.* and the annual rent of 4*l.*, it has continued a member of the Inner Temple to be a mansion for lawyers until the present time.

In Maitland's time Clifford's Inn had been "much enlarged in new buildings. In the garden, an airy place and neatly kept, the gardens being inclosed with a palisade paling, and adorned with rows of lime trees, are set grass-plats, which have a pleasant appearance, intersected by gravel walks."

Mr. Herbert, in his notice of this inn, quotes this passage, and says, "The gardens do not altogether, at present, answer the above description, being rather neglected, and several of the houses in the inn want rebuilding; but it, nevertheless, is a tolerably pleasant retirement." Since Mr. Herbert wrote, this desirable renovation has been commenced, and Clifford's Inn, and its neighbour, Serjeants' Inn, have shook off their antique looks, and shine in the splendour of handsome modern houses. It now consists of three small squares, two of which are separated by the hall, the passage of which forms a thoroughfare into the two inner courts. The hall is in no way remarkable. It contains an old-fashioned chest, in which are kept the original institutions of this society. Sir Matthew Hale and the principal judges sat in this hall after the great fire of London, to settle the various differences that occurred between landlord and tenant, and to ascertain the several divisions of property.

This society was governed by a principal and twelve rulers. The gentlemen were to be in commons a fortnight in every term; and those that failed to do so paid about 4*s.* a-week. They sell their chambers for one life: mootings were formerly held here. Their armorial bearings are, chequy or and azure, a fess gules, within a border of the third.

3. *Lyon's Inn* is attached to the Inner Temple. It is situate between Holywell Street and Wych Street: it consists of one square with chambers on two of its sides, the windows of the northern range looking into Wych Street, and the others into the inn: the south side is formed by the houses in Holywell Street. The hall stands in the south-west corner of the court, and is now of but little use: the pediment of its roof is ornamented with the armorial bearing of the society, a lion, beneath which is the date 1700. This little inn bears evident marks of neglect and decay. It is of great antiquity, being mentioned in the old books of the steward's accounts, which contain entries made in the time of Henry the Fifth. Its government was formerly vested in a treasurer and twelve ancients.

4. *St. Clement's Inn*, an appendage of the Inner Temple, appears to have derived its name from the neighbouring church and a celebrated holy well, both dedicated to the Roman pontiff St. Clement. According to Stowe, "The fountain called St. Clement's well, north from the parish church of St. Clements, and neare unto an inne of chancery, called Clement's Inne, is a faire curbed square, with hard stone, kept clean for common, and is always full." This well now supplies the parish pump with excellent water.

Mention is made of this inn for the education of law students so early as the 19th of Edward the Fourth, but its origin is unknown. In the reign of Henry the Seventh, 1486, Sir John Cantlowe, Knight, by lease in consideration of xl. marks fine, and 4*l.* vi*s.* viii*d.* yearly rent, demised it for eighty years to William and John Eylot, (in trust, it is presumed, for the students.) About 1528 Cantlowe's right and interest passed to William Holles, citizen and Lord Mayor of London, and ancestor of the Dukes of Newcastle, one of whom, John, earl of Clare, son and successor of Sir John Holles, the first earl, and whose residence was on the



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site of the present Clare Market, demised it to the then principal and fellows.

The present buildings occupy three small courts. The hall fills one side of the middle square. It contains a good portrait of Sir Matthew Hale. The arms of the society appear on the outside, argent, an anchor (without a stock) in pale, proper, and a C sable passing through the middle.

In the midst of the garden, which adjoins that of New Inn, is a sun-dial supported by the kneeling figure of a Moor or African, which was brought from Italy by Lord Clare, and presented to the society. The following lines are said to have been found stuck upon the figure:—

In vain, poor sable son of woe,
Thou seek'st the tender tear:
From thee in vain with pangs they flow,
For mercy dwells not here.
From cannibals thou fled'st in vain;
Lawyers less quarter give;
The first won't eat you till you're slain,
The last will do't alive.

The conduct of the students of these little law seminaries in the olden time may be judged of from the following anecdote told by Strype. He is speaking of St. Clement's church:—

"Here about this church, and in the parts adjacent, were frequent disturbances, by reason of the unthrifts of the inns of Chancery, who were so unruly on nights, walking about to the disturbance and danger of such as passed along the streets, that the inhabitants were fain to keep watches. In the year 1582 the recorder himself, with six more of the honest inhabitants, stood by St. Clement's church to see the lanthorn hung out, and to observe if he could meet with any of these outrageous dealers. About seven at night they saw young Mr. Robert Cecil, the lord treasurer's son, who was afterwards Secretary of State to the Queen, pass by the church, and as he passed gave them a civil salute; at which they said, 'Lo! you may see how a nobleman's son can use himself, and how he putteth off his cap to poor men: our Lord bless him.' This passage the recorder wrote in a letter to his father, adding, 'Your lordship hath cause to thank God for so virtuous a child.'"

5. *New Inn* is the only law seminary remaining in the possession of the Middle Temple. It forms three sides of a square, the fourth, or north-east, being the boundary, a gate and iron railing, between it and Clement's Inn, which adjoins it. The garden is common to both societies. The hall stands near the south-east corner of the square.

About the year 1485 the site of this inn was occupied as a common inn or hostelry for travellers. Its sign being that of the Virgin Mary, it obtained the name of "Our Lady Inn." According to Dugdale, "it first became an hostell for students of the law, (as the tradition is,) upon the removal of the students from an old inn of chancery, situate in Seacoal-lane, a little south from St. Sepulchre's church, called St. George's inn, and was procured from Sir John Fineux, knight, sometime lord chief justice of the king's bench, for the rent of 6*l.* per annum, by the name of New Inn." Stowe also says, "In St. George's-lane, near St. Sepulchre's church, on the north side thereof, remaineth yet an olde wall, inclosing a piece of ground by Sea-cole-lane, wherein, by report, sometime stood an inne of Chancery; which house being greatly decayed, and standing remote from other houses of that profession, the company removed to a common hostelry, called of the signe *Our Lady Inne*, not far from *Clement's Inne*, which they procured from Sir John Fineux, lord chief justice of the King's Bench, and since have held it of the owners by the name of the *New Inne*, paying therefore sixe pound rent by the yeere, as tenants at their owne will; for more (as is said) cannot be gotten of them, and much lesse will they be put from it."

This society was governed by a treasurer and twelve ancients. Their armorial bearings are, vert, a flower-pot argent.

Section 7.

Lincoln's Inn.

In the year 1221 twelve black or preaching friars, accompanied by their prior, Gilbert de Fraxineto, arrived in England, and having found favour with Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, they were soon assisted by numerous benefactions, and founded a house and church upon a plot of ground which was given to them, "without the wall of the city, by Holbourn, near unto the Old Temple." Here they remained till 1276, when, having

received the gift of a more extensive site in the district which now bears their name, they erected a new convent, and removed to it.

Adjoining the site of the first establishment of the black friars was the mansion of Ralph Nevil, bishop of Chichester, and chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Third. This house was situated in a garden, in the lower part of what was then called New-street, afterwards Chancellor's, but now Chancery-lane. On the death of Bishop Nevil, Chichester-house* fell into the possession of Richard de Wihtz, called Saint Richard, about which time that mansion, and the deserted house of the black friars, became appropriated to the study of the law, but in what particular way does not appear. It is said that Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, who had a grant by patent from Edward the First, of "the old friar-house juxta Holborn, being a person well affected to the study of the laws," assigned the professors this residence, but whether by gift or purchase is uncertain. From this nobleman, who died in 1310, the name of Lincoln's Inn is derived.

To the Earl of Lincoln's estate, on this spot, was soon afterwards added the greater part of that possessed by the Bishops of Chichester, who leased it to the students of the law, reserving a rent and lodgings for themselves on their coming to London. In 1536 Bishop Simpson passed the inheritance thereof, and of the garden called Cotterell Garden, or Coneygarth†, to William and Eustace Suliarde. In 1580 Edward, the son of Eustace, conveyed to Richard Kingsmill, and other benchers, this house, garden, &c., in fee. A succession of deeds from this time to 1786 testify the freehold right conferred by tenure under this society.

Up to the reign of Elizabeth Lincoln's Inn was separated from Chancery-lane on one side, and from the fields on the other, by a mere embankment of clay; but in the first year of that reign an order was made that a brick wall and gates should be set up, which in the course of time was done, not, however, until the order had been repeated in the 4th of Elizabeth, and sundry negotiations completed, for in those days the erection of a brick wall was not a trifle.

Lincoln's Inn consists of two principal portions, the old and the new. In the former the objects most worthy of notice are the gateway, the hall, and the chapel. The latter contains New Square and Stone Buildings. There are also some new buildings now in progress which comprise a hall, library, council rooms, &c. These promise to excel in extent, magnificence, and beauty, any similar erections in the metropolis. The architect of this splendid pile is Mr. Hardwick.

In the year 1492 the society pulled down their old hall, for the purpose of erecting a new one; but want of means prevented them from commencing it until about the year 1506, when, partly by loan and partly by contribution, they had raised a sum of money for the purpose. John Nethersole, a member of this society, (13 Hen. VII.) bequeathed forty marks, "partly towards the building of a library here, for the benefit of the students of the laws of England, and partly that every priest of this house, then being, or hereafter to be, who should celebrate mass and other divine service every Friday weekly, should then sing a mass of *requiem*, and also, in the time of the said mass, before his first *lavature*, say the psalm of *De profundis*, with the orizons and collects accustomed, for the soul of the said John."

By the register of the inn, it appears that the hall was finished in the 22nd of Henry the Seventh, and that in the following year the gatehouse-tower was contracted for, "unto which Sir Thomas Lovell, formerly a member of this society, but then treasurer of the household to King Henry the Eighth, was a good benefactor;" and his example seems to have stimulated the rest of the society to contribute to the work. It was not completed until the 9th of Henry the Eighth, the expense amounting to 153*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

The timber used in this structure was brought by water from Henley-upon-Thames. The materials for making the brick and tile were dug from the Coneygarth; the sum of 16*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* was paid for forty-three cart-loads of free-stone, together with the wrought work of the chimneys, and sculpturing the arms over the gate.

This gateway consists of two wings or square towers, with a handsome stone gothic arch in the centre. The building is of black or dark-grey bricks, intersecting each other nearly at right angles. Over the gateway are three circular compartments, containing, in the centre, the arms of England, encircled with the garter and its motto. The arms on the dexter side are those of Lacy, earl of Lincoln, and on the sinister those of Sir Thomas Lovell, Knight of the Garter. A label beneath bears the date 1518. Oliver Cromwell is reported to have had chambers over this entrance.

The hall is a fine room, but not equal to the halls of some of the other inns. It is used not only for the commons of the society, but for the sittings before the Lord Chancellor. At a short distance from the hall is the Vice-Chancellor's Court.

The lantern over the hall was added in the 6th of Edward the Sixth (1552); it was formerly decorated with the arms of Lacy, earl of Lincoln, and of the earl of Chester, dated 1682. In 1818 the lantern was rebuilt, and the lead containing the arms removed.

At the upper end of the hall is a painting, by Hogarth, representing Paul before Felix. We learn from Mr. Lane's *Student's Guide through Lincoln's Inn*, the origin of this picture. Lord Wyndham, chancellor of Ireland, left by will 200*l.* to be expended in ornamenting the hall by any means the treasurer and benchers should approve. Lord Mansfield, who had a great esteem for Hogarth, proposed that the money should be applied to the purchase of a picture by this artist. This was agreed to, and the picture was painted, and placed in the hall in 1750. It is 14 feet wide by 10½ feet high. "Hogarth, solicitous to learn if it met the approbation of the benchers, waited on them for that purpose, when he was invited to dine with them,—a favour seldom conferred but on legal or ecclesiastical characters, and generally members of the society."

There is also a three-quarter portrait with the inscription "Anno 1600, Æ. 58, Glanville, father to Glanville, the Speaker, in 1640;" and another of the same size, inscribed "A.D. 1640. Ætatis suæ, 55, Serjeant Glanville, Speaker to the House of Commons in the reign of King Charles the First." On the windows and panels around are the arms of the various law dignitaries and others, who were formerly members of this society. The statue of Erskine is placed at the southern end of the hall, opposite to the chair of the Lord Chancellor.

The chapel is in the gothic style, from a design by Inigo Jones; it is erected on pillars and arches, which form an open walk beneath the floor of the chapel, but of late years it has been enclosed with an iron railing, and is now used as a place of interment for benchers only.

This chapel was commenced in the time of James the First, when it was ordered that the old chapel, which had become ruinous, should be pulled down and a new one erected. The estimate of the architect amounted to 2000*l.*, to meet which a subscription was opened among the benchers, which, however, did not produce more than 200*l.*; whereupon "it was agreed and induced, first that each of the masters of the bench and associates thereunto, should pay towards this structure xx*l.* a-piece; each of seven years standing at the bar, xx nobles; each of the bar, under that time, vl.; and each gentleman of the house under the bar, xl*s.*" At a subsequent meeting, a general tax was laid upon all such as had not contributed, or showed their willingness so to do.

By such means the chapel was completed, and on Ascension Day, 1623, it was consecrated by George Mountaine, bishop of London; Doctor Donne, then dean of St. Paul's, preaching from the text John x. 22, 23.

Very considerable additions have been made to Lincoln's Inn in modern times. These lie to the north and south of the older portion, and are known as "New-square," or "Searle's-court," and the "Stone Buildings." Searle's-court received its name from Henry Searle, esq., a bencher of the house whose property it was about 1697, when it formed part of a plot of ground called "Little Lincoln's Inn Fields." It is surrounded on three sides by brick buildings, which are let out as chambers; the fourth, or north side, opens on the garden. In the centre of this square is a *fountain*, as it called; it formerly consisted of a small column, of the Corinthian order, from a design of Inigo Jones; the top supported a sun-dial, and from the four corners of the pedestal, infant tritons, holding shells, spouted water. All these ornaments have disappeared, and nothing remains but a mutilated pedestal, supporting a gas-lamp, and surrounded by stagnant water, so that the *fountain* disfigures the place it was intended to adorn. The

* The site of this house and garden still retains the names of "Bishop's-court" and "Chichester-rents."

† So called from the quantity of rabbits; "for we find," says Mr. Lane, "in the 8th of Edward the Fourth, the 12th of Henry the Seventh, and 24th of Henry the Eighth, strict penalties on the students hunting the same with bows, arrows, or darts."

arms of Mr. Searle, with those of the inn, are in one corner of the square.

The "Stone Buildings" are a range of houses, so called from the material with which they are erected: they stand towards the north end of Chancery-lane, immediately behind the "Six Clerks' Office," their fronts facing the west. This handsome range is part of a regular plan by Sir Robert Taylor, for rebuilding the whole inn, but which has never been completed.

The library, situated in Stone Buildings, is a handsome spacious apartment, being made out of three sets of chambers. It contains a good collection of books, and many very curious and valuable manuscripts. The first formation of this library was begun in the reign of Henry the Seventh, but the books accumulated so slowly, that in the 6th of James the First it was ordered, "for the more speedy furnishing of the same, every one that should thenceforth be called to the bench in this society, should give xx*s.* towards the buying of bookes for the same library; and every one thenceforth called to the bar xiii*s.* iiii*d.*, all of which sums to be paid to Mr. Matthew Hadde, who, for the better ordering of the said library, was then made master thereof." According to present arrangements, each master of the bench contributes eleven guineas, and every student on his being called to the bar five pounds. The money thus contributed is expended in the purchase of such books relating to jurisprudence as are not commonly found in private libraries.

The MSS. were mostly bequeathed to this society by Sir Matthew Hale; they have been classed and explained in the return made to the select committee for examining into the state of the public records: they refer to matters of a parliamentary, judicial, legal, and public nature. "Among them there are, strictly speaking, scarcely any originals, but many of the transcripts and abstracts in the collection have, in some respects, acquired the value of originals, and are in the estimation of those who have had occasion to examine them, of great authenticity and importance." They are kept in close presses at one of the ends of the library; the keys of the presses are kept by the master of the library, who is chosen annually by the benchers from their own body, and the manuscripts cannot be viewed without a special order from one or two of the masters of the bench.

The library is open daily from 10 till 3 during term, and from 11 till 4 in the vacation, holidays excepted, for the use of the members of the inn. The library also contains a few good pictures. When the new building is completed, the library will indeed be an honour to the society.

This society seems to have been especially careful respecting the costume of its members. In the 23rd of Henry the Eighth every fellow was forbidden, on pain of expulsion, from wearing any "cut or pansyd hosen or bryches, or pansyd doblet." On one occasion, a member who transgressed so far as to wear his study gown in Cheapside on a Sunday, was fined five groats. In the reign of Elizabeth, the bench hurled its thunders against long hair and great ruffs, and ordered a fine to be levied on such as should wear a hat in the hall or chapel, or go abroad without a gown. An order was also made against cloaks, boots, and spurs, swords, bucklers, and rapiers; but perhaps the most remarkable restriction was that on beards; in the 33rd of Henry the Eighth an order was made, that no fellow, being in commons or at repast, should wear a beard; "and whoso did, to pay double commons or repasts. in this house, during such time as he should have any beard." But this order not being strictly observed, the penalty was increased, and it was ordered, 1st of Mary, "that such as had beards should pay 12*d.* for every meal they continued them; and every man to be shav'n upon pain of putting out of commons." In the 1st of Elizabeth it was further ordered, that no fellow should wear his beard above a fortnight's growth, and transgressors forfeited for the first offence 3*s.* 4*d.*, for the second 6*s.* 8*d.*, while the third was met by expulsion. But the fashion of wearing beards was stronger than these restrictions, and it was at length agreed, "that orders, before that time (2nd of Elizabeth) made, should be void and repealed."

Lincoln's Inn, as well as the Temple, had its dancings or revels. In the 9th of Henry the Sixth it was ordered "that there should be four revels that year, and no more; one at the feast of All Hallows, another at the feast of St. Erkenwald, the third at the feast of the Purification of our Lady, and the fourth on Midsummer Day;" but it appears that in some years the revels were more frequent. A master of the revels was chosen annually. In addition to these revels, Lincoln's Inn had its "grand Christmasings." Instead of its "Lord of Misrule," it had its "King of the Cocknies;" and they also had a "Jack Straw," but in the reign of Elizabeth it was agreed, that he, and all his adherents, be thenceforth utterly banished, and no more be used in this house.

Lincoln's Inn first proposed the famous masque which was presented to the King at Christmas, 9th of Charles the First, the total amount of which cost the four inns 2400*l.*, and which was so well approved by the King, that, after thanking them, he invited a hundred of the members of the four inns of court to a masque at Whitehall, held on the Shrove Tuesday following.

Readers were appointed in this society, as in the Temple. In the 33rd of Elizabeth, the readings having declined, owing to the excessive expense of keeping them, an order was made to limit the expense.

Section 8.

Modes of Admission to the Inns of Court.

The principal inns of court have agreed to one common set of regulations for the admission of students, &c.; so that a description of the proceedings, with reference to Lincoln's Inn, may, for the most part, be taken as applicable to all.

The first thing that is required is to lodge at the steward's office a statement, in writing, describing the age, residence, and condition in life, of the party seeking admission, to be signed by him, and witnessed by two persons of acknowledged respectability. Such statement being presented to the treasurer, an entry thereof is made in a book, which is submitted every term to the benchers. If any candidate is rejected by any one of the four societies, a certificate of the fact is sent to the other three. The sums to be paid on admission are, admission fee, 3*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; stamps, 26*l.* 10*s.*; bond and fees to the officers, 1*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*; but a bencher has the privilege of entering one son, on paying only for the stamps and fees to the officers. A bond must be entered into by the candidate and a member of the inn, or two housekeepers, in the penalty of 100*l.*, for the payment of his dues annually, amounting to about 6*l.* He must also deposit 100*l.* before he commences his terms, but exemption from this deposit is obtained by producing a certificate of having kept two years' terms in either of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin, or of being of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, or if admitted for the purpose of being called to the Irish Bar.

The method of keeping terms is by dining a certain number of days in the Hall during the four law terms. Dinner commences at half-past four, and the student is required not to leave the hall until grace is said after dinner. The steward then enters the names of all present. One week in each term is denominated "Grand-week," and one of the days in such week "Grand-day." The grand day is fixed by the benchers on the first night of each term. Attendance in the hall is regulated with reference to the grand week. Students may, if they please, dine in the hall every day in term by paying 2*s.* for each repast above the whole number of days necessary for the purpose of keeping the term. The chief porter supplies a plain black gown worn by the members during dinner.

Before a student can be called to the English Bar, it is necessary that his name shall have been five years on the books of the society, unless he have previously taken the degree of M.A. or B.L. in one of the universities, in which case three years suffice, during which period he must keep twelve terms' commons, and perform nine exercises, of which not more than three can be performed in one term. An attorney or solicitor cannot perform exercises until his name shall have been taken off the roll; a person in trade, or one who has been a lawyer's, barrister's, or conveyancer's clerk, is not allowed to perform exercises to enable him to be called to the bar. No person in deacon's orders, nor any one under the age of twenty-one, can be called to the bar.

The exercises are done before the barristers immediately after dinner, the student having first obtained a certificate qualifying him thereto. We are ignorant of the nature of these exercises, "the proper officer in the hall" directing the student what to do at the proper time.

When a student is qualified for the bar, and has given notice of his intention of being called, his name must be affixed in the hall a fortnight before that event, and he must present a petition praying to be called to the bar.

This petition "is presented to the benchers at a special council convened expressly relative to calls to the bar; and previous to such council the student must procure some bencher to move the consideration of such petition. Another special council is then fixed for the purpose of calls; when, if the candidate be approved, the petition is granted, and it is ordered that the petitioner be published (or called to the bar) at the next exercise in the hall, which is generally on the following day.

"On that day the student must attend personally; and after dinner proceed to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, which are administered by the steward, before the benchers.

"After taking the oaths, he is published, or called to the bar by the benchers, and retires to the council chamber to sign the register of his call in the presence of the benchers; who immediately leave him to the enjoyment of the company of his friends, usually invited on the occasion." He is also required to take the oaths at Westminster, and he must enter into a bond for the payment of the annual dues, which, for the first three years after his call to the bar, amount to 10*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

The expense of being called to the bar differs in the inns from about 66*l.* (the expense of being called in Gray's Inn) to 93*l.*, (the expense in Lincoln's Inn.)

The Irish Inns of Court originated in the establishment of Courts of Justice in Dublin. Irish students are required to keep eight terms in one of the English inns, as well as nine in the King's Inn, Dublin, before they can be called to the Irish bar. Irish students may keep terms in London and Dublin alternately, or in any order they think proper. Most of the Irish students in London resort to Gray's Inn.

There are two inns of chancery attached to Lincoln's Inn, namely, Thaive's Inn and Furnival's Inn.

1. *Thaive's Inn* derives its name from John Thaive or Tavie, who had a house adjoining St. Andrew's Church in Holborn, to the support of which, in 1348, he left a considerable estate, the value of which had so much accumulated that from the profits of it the present church was principally rebuilt in 1670. Thaive directed that after the decease of his wife Alice, his estates and the *hospicium in quo apprenticii ad legem habitare solebant* should be sold in order to maintain a chaplain, who was to pray for his soul and that of his spouse.

In the reign of Edward the Sixth, one Gregory Nicholls, citizen and mercer of London, having inherited this mansion, granted it to the benchers of Lincoln's Inn for the use of students of the law; which society constituted it one of their inns of chancery, and vested the government in a principal and fellows.

The old inn was burnt down some years since, and the houses were rebuilt in the form of a private court.

2. *Furnival's Inn* is first noticed as a law seminary in its steward's account-book, written about the 9th of King Henry the Fourth, and derives its name from its original occupants, the Lords Furnival. The precise date of its establishment as a school of legal education is uncertain, but it appears to have descended by marriage to the Earls of Shrewsbury, who, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, in consideration of 120*l.*, sold it to the society of Lincoln's Inn. This society granted a lease to the principal and fellows of Furnival's Inn, who were to pay yearly the sum of 3*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*

The buildings of old Furnival's Inn will probably be remembered by many of our readers; they had a very dirty desolate appearance. The street front was the best. Mr. Herbert describes it as "a fine specimen of brick-work, being adorned with pilasters, mouldings, and various other ornaments." An arched gateway led to the interior parts of the inn. "The hall is seen on entering the gateway, but its aspect is by no means calculated to make a favourable impression on the spectator: it is a low plain brick building, with a small turret, and two large projecting bow-windows at the west end, and is, like the rest of the inn, in a most neglected state. The north side of it, on passing through the passage, or entrance to the inner court, with a small range of old chambers that adjoins, and whose fronts are plastered in the cottage style, have a singularly rustic appearance, and bear a much greater resemblance to a country village than a London inn of chancery."

In 1817 the lease having expired, and the old and ruinous buildings having been partly destroyed by fire, and partly fallen down, a new lease of the ground was granted to Henry Peto, of Little Britain, who erected the present inn.

Section 9.

Gray's Inn,

The fourth and last inn of court, stands on the north side of Holborn, nearly opposite the end of Chancery-lane, and extends a very considerable distance eastward. It derives its name, like most of the other inns, from its original occupants, who, in this case, were the Lords Gray of Wilton. In the year 1315, John, the son of Reginald de Gray, obtained a license from the king, "to grant xxx acres of land, two acres of meadow, and ten shillings rent, with the appurtenances, lying in Kentish-town, near London, and in the parish of St. Andrew, in Holborn, without the barr of the old Temple, unto the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew's, in Smithfield, to furnish a certain chaplain to celebrate divine service every day in the chapel of Pourtpole without the barrs (that being the chapel to this house,) for the soul of the said John, and for the souls of his ancestors, and all the faithful deceased, for ever."

In the year 1505 Edmund Lord Gray, by indenture of bargain and sale, passed to Hugh Denny, esq., his heirs and assigns, the manor of Portpoole, otherwise called Gray's Inn, four messuages, four gardens, the site of a windmill, eight acres of land, ten shillings of free rent, and the advowson of the chantry of Portpoole aforesaid. This bargain and sale was confirmed by a release in the 22nd of Henry the Seventh.

About eight years afterwards the prior and convent of Shene (as Richmond, in Surrey, was then called,) became possessors, by purchase, of the manor of Portpoole, &c., and soon after demised the premises to the students of the law, for the annual rent of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; at which rent they were held of that monastery till the Dissolution, when, becoming the property of the Crown, a grant was made by the king in fee-farm, and the property still continues vested in the Crown.

The ancient orders for learning and government in this society are similar to those of the other inns. Among the orders it may be noticed, that no fellow was allowed to stand with his back to the fire, or to make any rude noise in the hall, at meal times, or to break open any body's chambers; every one was required to wear his cap in the hall both in term time and in vacation. They also had their revels and interludes, and even fined their fellows 12*d.* each, if they should depart out of the hall before the revels were ended.

Gray's Inn Gardens have long been celebrated. They were planted about the 40th of Elizabeth, when Bacon, afterwards Lord Verulam, in his account as treasurer of the society, allowed the sum of 7*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for planting elm-trees in them.

The hall ranks next in beauty to that of the Middle Temple; it was finished in the 2nd of Elizabeth. The chapel, which is a modern structure, stands on the site of the ancient religious structure already noticed.

The inns of chancery belonging to Gray's Inn are Staple Inn and Barnard's Inn, both in Holborn. The first is said to have been anciently called *Staple Hall*, and used as a sort of exchange for the wool merchants or staplers. In the reign of Henry the Fifth, and probably earlier, it had become an inn of chancery. The first grant of it to the ancients of Gray's Inn was in the 20th of Henry the Eighth.

Barnard's Inn was anciently called Mackworth Inn, from John Mackworth, dean of Lincoln, by whose executors it was given in the 32nd of Henry the Sixth to the dean and chapter of Lincoln for pious purposes. It was then spoken of as the *second* inn of chancery, and it is also named in Stowe's *Annals*, in reference to an event which occurred in the reign of Henry the Sixth; "a tumult betwixt the gentlemen of the innes of court and chancery and the citizens of London hapning in Fleet-street, in which some mischief was done; the principals of Clifford's Inne, Furnivall's Inne, and Barnard's Inne, were sent prisoners to Hartford Castle."

The two inns called "Serjeants' Inns," one of which is in Fleet-street and the other in Chancery-lane, are appropriated to such gentlemen only as have been called to the degree of the coif. The Judges are also members of Serjeants' Inn, and had formerly official chambers in Chancery-lane, which have been recently removed to the new buildings in Clifford's Inn.

John W. Parker, Publisher, West Strand, London.